

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - Second Session - 2016

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB851

Chairperson: Senator John Murante

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Date of Hearing: February 17, 2016

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 851 would modify the Taxpayer Transparency Act to broaden the scope of entities required to submit financial data for the state's transparency website, StateSpending.Nebraska.gov

LB 851 would require checkbook-level financial information from a variety of quasi-public governmental entities to be submitted to the State Treasurer's office for inclusion on the state spending website.

Under the bill a state entity is defined as "any agency, board, commission or department of the state and any other body created by state statute that includes a person appointed by the governor, the head of any state agency or department, an employee of the state of Nebraska or any combination of such persons that is empowered to collect and disburse state receipts.

The affected state entities would be required to submit all expenditures of state receipts, whether appropriated or non-appropriated, including grants, contracts, subcontracts, aid to political subdivisions, tax refunds or credits that may be disclosed under existing laws and any other disbursements of state receipts in the performance of the entity's functions. Transfer of funds between two state entities, payments of state or federal assistance to an individual, or expenditure of pass-through funds would not fit within the definition of expenditures for purposes of the Act.

Data from the state entities to be added to the state spending website by **LB 851** would be available for fiscal year 2016-2017 and for each fiscal year thereafter.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator John McCollister